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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 09/476,900 | 01/03/2000 | KOICHI FUNAYA | P/29-1206 | 8468 |

7590 03/08/2004

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EXAMINER

SALTARELLI, DOMINIC D

| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
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2611

DATE MAILED: 03/08/2004

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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Commissioner for Patents

The reply filed on 02/17/2003 is not fully responsive to the prior Office Action because of the following matter: Applicant elected the species represented by Figure 2, but incorrectly indicated that Figure 2 corresponds to claims 1-16. Claims 1-16 cover every disclosed species, and Figure 2 also corresponds to claims that fall outside the range of 1-16. For example:

Figure 2 corresponds to claims 1, 2, 17, 18, 25, 26, and 9.

Figure 12 corresponds to claims 3, 19, 27, and 10.

Figure 18 corresponds to claims 8, 24, 32, and 16.

See 37 CFR 1.111. Since the above-mentioned reply appears to be bona fide, applicant is given ONE (1) MONTH or THIRTY (30) DAYS from the mailing date of this notice, whichever is longer, within which to supply the omission or correction in order to avoid abandonment. EXTENSIONS OF THIS TIME PERIOD MAY BE GRANTED UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dominic D Saltarelli whose telephone number is (703) 305-8660. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 10-7.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the primary examiner, Christopher Grant can be reached on (703) 305-4755. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


CHRIS GRANT
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Dominic Saltarelli
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Art Unit 2611